Amendments to the Claims

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of the Claims:

1. (currently amended): A wound healing composition comprising isolated living dermal fibroblast cells having a wound healing phenotype, characterized in that the cells of the composition:

   (i) exhibit a 2 to 48000-fold higher level of expression of apolipoprotein D (ApoD); a 2000 to 1600000-fold higher level of expression of matrix metalloprotease 2 (MMP2); a 20 to 44000-fold higher level of expression of collagen 3a1 (Coll3a1); and a 20 to 150000-fold higher level of expression of smooth muscle actin (SMA) relative to the expression level of Ribosomal protein L32 (RPL32); or

   (ii) have a banding pattern of polymerase chain reaction (PCR) products resulting from differential display identical or similar to that shown in FIG. 4 or FIG. 5 for nucleic acid expression in fibrin,

   wherein the cells are comprised within a fibrin support matrix formed by thrombin-mediated polymerization of a fibrinogen/isolated living dermal fibroblast mixture followed by incubation of said fibrin support matrix at about 37°C for about 16-24 hours after formation of said matrix, and

   wherein said composition has a shelf-life of at least 7 up to 28 days, when stored at about 2° to 8°C.

2. (currently amended) The wound healing composition of claim 1, in which the cells further exhibit a 1 to 500-fold higher level of expression of [["]]X-ray repair, complementing defective, in Chinese hamster, 1[["]] (DD5); a 1 to 210-fold higher level of expression of a gene deposited as Genbank Accession No. gi|10437022 (DD10); or a 1 to 33-fold higher level of expression of a gene deposited as Genbank Accession No. gi|12410897 (GB1) relative to the expression level of RPL32.

Claims 3-12 (cancelled)

13. (currently amended) The wound healing composition of claim [[7]] 1, in which the matrix is non-pyrogenic and/or sterile.

14. (cancelled)

15. (currently amended) The wound healing composition of claim [[7]] 1, in which the matrix is solid or semi-solid.

16. (cancelled)

17. (previously presented) The wound healing composition of claim 1, in which the cells are mammalian.

Claims 18-19 (cancelled)

20. (previously presented) The wound healing composition of claim 1, in which the cells substantially exclude keratinocytes.

Claims 21-54 (canceled)

55. (previously presented) The wound healing composition of claim 1, in which the cells exhibit a 100 to 2000-fold higher level of expression of ApoD; a 13000 to 100000-fold higher level of expression of MMP2; a 800 to 1800-fold higher level of expression of Coll3a1; or a 1600 to 2500-fold higher level of expression of SMA relative to the level of expression of RPL32.

Claims 56-57 (cancelled)

58. (currently amended) The wound healing composition of claim [[8]] 1, in which the cells are suspended substantially uniformly within the matrix.

59. (currently amended) The wound healing composition of claim [[9]] 1, in which the matrix has a protein concentration in the range of about 3 to 12 $mg.ml^{-1}$.

Claims 60-61 (cancelled)

62. (currently amended) The wound healing composition of claim [[61]] 1, in which the composition is stored for ~~up to about~~ 7 to 14 days ~~or about 7 to 11 days~~.

63. (currently amended) The wound healing composition of claim [[17]] 1, in which the cells are human.

64. (currently amended) The wound healing composition of claim [[18]] 1, in which fibroblasts comprise between about 90% to 100% of the cells of said composition.

Claims 65-70 (cancelled)

71. (previously presented) The wound healing composition of claim 1, in which the cells are not proliferating or not senescent.

72. (previously presented) The wound healing composition of claim 1, further comprising a protease inhibitor.

73. (previously presented) The wound healing composition of claim 72, in which the protease inhibitor is aprotinin or tranexamic acid.

74. (previously presented) The wound healing composition of claim 1, in which the composition has a thickness of approximately 8 mm or less.

75. (previously presented) The wound healing composition of claim 74, in which the composition has a thickness of approximately 5 mm or less.

76. (previously presented) The wound healing composition of claim 1, comprising about 450 to 2500 cells per mm^2.

77. (previously presented) The wound healing composition of claim 1, in which the composition is single-layered.

78. (previously presented) The wound healing composition of claim 1, in which the composition is packaged in a container suitable for transporting the composition, storing the composition, or topically applying the composition to a skin surface.

79. (previously presented) The wound healing composition of claim 78, in which the container comprises a flexible pouch consisting of two sheets of impermeable flexible material peripherally sealed to provide a means of containment for the composition, the pouch comprising a first internal surface to which the composition is adherent at a level of adhesion more than between the composition and a second internal surface of the pouch but less than that between the composition and the skin surface, such that in use the pouch may be opened by parting the sheets and the composition conveniently manipulated and directly applied to the skin surface without further requirement for the composition to be touched directly by any other means prior to application.

80. (previously presented) The wound healing composition of claim 78, in which the container is an Oliver™ Products Company "Solvent Resistant Peelable Pouching Material" (Product number Q15/48BF1).

81. (previously presented) The wound healing composition of claim 1, for use as a medicament.

82. (previously presented) The wound healing composition of claim 1, for use as a medicament in the treatment of a skin lesion.

83. (previously presented) The wound healing composition of claim 81, wherein said medicament is used for topical application to a skin lesion.

84. (previously presented) The wound healing composition of claim 83, wherein said skin lesion is a venous ulcer, diabetic ulcer, pressure sore, burn or iatrogenic grating wound.

Claims 85-128 (cancelled).